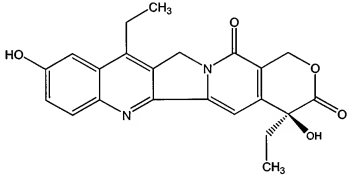
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

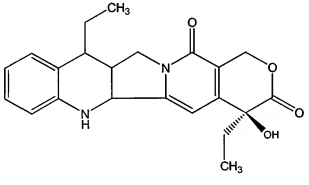
1.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of manufacturing~~ A process for the preparation of 7-ethyl-10-hydroxy-camptothecin of formula I



(I)

~~characterized in that~~ comprising oxidizing 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-~~terahydrocamptothecin~~ tetrahydrocamptothecin of formula IV

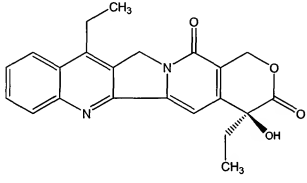


(IV)

~~is oxidized~~ with iodobenzene diacetate in acetic acid and ~~in the presence of water under the conditions consisting in that iodobenzene diacetate is used in an amount of 0.99 to 1.85 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin, acetic acid is used in an amount of 668 to 1001 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin and the oxidation is carried out at a~~

~~temperature from 15 to 30°C for 5 to 30 minutes.~~ water, wherein the amount of acetic acid is 668 to 1001 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin or 1130 mol per 1 mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin, and the oxidation is carried out for 5 to 30 minutes.

24. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the starting 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin is obtained by hydrogenation of 7-ethylcamptothecin of formula II



(II)

in a saturated aliphatic monocarboxylic acid having 1 to 3 carbon atoms, using hydrogen in the presence of a hydrogenation catalyst and a sulfur compound that partly deactivates the hydrogenation catalyst.

25. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the saturated aliphatic acid is formic acid, acetic acid or trifluoroacetic acid.

26. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 25, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein acetic acid is used in an amount of 791 to 1187 mol~~, preferably 890 to 1088 ml~~, per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin.

27. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the sulfur compound that partly deactivates the hydrogenation catalyst is dimethyl ~~sulfoxid~~sulfoxide.

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 27, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein dimethyl sulfoxide is used in an amount of 0.18 to 0.33 mol, ~~preferably 0.23 to 0.28 ml,~~ per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin.

29. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hydrogenation catalyst is a noble metal.

30. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 7~~ claim 29, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the noble metal is platinum.

31. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hydrogenation catalyst is platinum ~~is used~~ on an activated carbon or aluminum oxide carrier.

32. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to ~~claim 9~~ claim 31, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the platinum is used in an amount of 0.018 to 0.027 mol, ~~preferably 0.020 to 0.025 mol,~~ per 1 mol of 7-ethylcamptothecin, in the form of a hydrogenation catalyst, formed by platinum on an activated carbon with a platinum content 5%.

33. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 24, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hydrogenation is carried out at a pressure from 0.3 to 0.7 Mpa, ~~preferably at a pressure fro 0.4 to 0.6 Mpa~~.

34. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hydrogenation is carried out at a temperature from 45 to 85°C, ~~preferably at 58 to 72°C~~.

35. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~process according to claim 33, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the hydrogenation is carried out for 24 to 70 hours, ~~preferably for 40 to 50 hours~~.

36. (New) The process according to claim 23 wherein the amount of iodobenzene diacetate used is 0.99 mol to 1.9 mol per mol of 7-ethyl-1,2,6,7-tetrahydrocamptothecin.

37. (New) The process according to claim 23 wherein the oxidation is carried out at a temperature ranging from 15 to 30°C.